

Preserving Our Living Legacy

PARKS PLAN 90



Recreation Goals
for BC Parks



Ministry of Parks
Hon. John Savage,
Minister

BC

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Parks Plan 90

Parks Plan 90 is a comprehensive public planning process that will help to complete and shape the future of the B.C. parks system.

This, the second phase of BC Parks' initiative to involve British Columbians in planning the park system, follows the 1988 release of *Striking the Balance*, the first public policy statement.

Parks Plan 90 documents are intended to encourage discussion and comments from British Columbians. They include: *Parks Plan 90: Summary*, *Parks Plan 90: Landscapes for BC Parks*, *Parks Plan 90: Special Features for BC Parks*, *Parks Plan 90: Recreation Goals for BC Parks*, *Parks Plan 90: Draft Working Map - Areas of Interest to BC Parks*.

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Introduction

BC Parks began inviting all British Columbians to participate in shaping a future for their provincial parks system in 1988, when it released a draft policy paper entitled *Striking the Balance* - the first formal statement of public policy ever produced by BC Parks. Its purpose was to focus public comment on BC Parks goals and management principles. *Striking the Balance* is a dynamic document which is evolving and being updated regularly in response to public input.

That commitment to a public-participation process continues with *Recreation Goals for BC Parks*, a draft report which defines a rational method for achieving the recreation mandate of BC Parks. As part of the Parks Plan 90 process, this report complements *Special Features for BC Parks* and *Landscapes for BC Parks*, which together provide the direction for meeting the system's conservation goals. Like these other reports, *Recreation Goals for BC Parks* is a preliminary document intended to inform the public and encourage discussion and comment. After considering and responding to public input, appropriate changes will be made before this report is formally incorporated into an overall plan to guide the future of the B.C. parks system.

The ability of any park system to provide recreational opportunities depends both on the quantity, distribution, diversity and integrity of the park land base and the type and quality of facilities and services. This document defines the recreation goals for the B.C. parks system and helps to identify the land base required to meet those goals. A further process will follow to involve the public in shaping the policies and strategies to provide the facilities and services to meet those recreation goals and to ensure that park resources are protected. In addition, BC Parks will continue its process of involving the public in the development of master plans for individual parks.

The purpose of this report is to:

- ❑ Examine the role of recreation in the park system today.
- ❑ Propose four broad goals for recreation in the park system.
- ❑ Evaluate the existing park system's capability to achieve those goals and identify areas to be studied as possible park additions.

❑ *Recreation Goals for BC Parks is intended to encourage public discussion and comment.*

❑ *This document defines the recreation goals for BC Parks and helps to identify the land base required.*

Upon completion of Parks Plan 90, the large land base requirements to meet both the conservation and recreation goals will be identified. The changing outdoor recreation scene in B.C. will, however, necessitate periodic re-examination of our smaller recreation lands in the years ahead.

We need your help

BC Parks operates on the fundamental premise that if the provincial parks system is to be valued by society, then every sector in society should be encouraged to actively participate in how our parks are selected, developed, managed and operated. This report is our invitation to you to help us shape the future of our park system.

- ☐ Do you agree with or wish to comment on the four proposed recreation goals?
- ☐ Do you agree with or wish to comment on our evaluation of the existing park lands' capability to meet those goals?
- ☐ Do you agree with or wish to comment on the study areas we have identified?
- ☐ Do you wish to propose any other areas for our consideration?

We encourage you to participate by writing to us and/or attending one of our many public open houses or meetings in early 1991. (A comment form is provided at the back of this document).

Comments can be mailed to:

Parks Plan 90
BC Parks
800 Johnson Street
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 1X4

Examination of the Role of Recreation in B.C.'s Provincial Park System

Background

The world is becoming increasingly aware of the value and unique role of parks both in conserving our natural heritage and in providing the public with prime recreational settings and opportunities. Intrinsic to the establishment of any park system is the belief that people will benefit from their inspiration, use and enjoyment and that these special places should therefore be available and accessible to all. Although our perception and use of parks has changed in response to new public needs and forms of recreation, the fundamental value of parks as natural and scenic environments in which to recreate has not changed over time.

The evolution of the B.C. park system has been driven by the changing social and economic dynamics and priorities of the province. Beginning with the establishment of Strathcona Provincial Park in 1911, the park system has grown into a diverse system consisting of 390 parks, ranging from small, recreation-intensive parks (Sun-Oka, Goldstream Park) to vast, wilderness areas (Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Park, Tweedsmuir Park). Present park facilities include 11,500 campsites, 5,000 picnic sites, 900 km of roads and 3,600 km of trails.

The early parks were expansive areas selected largely for their great beauty and anticipated high tourism potential and economic benefits. Then, the post war era saw a remarkable growth in small roadside camping parks and parks to serve local community needs. During the 1950s and 60s, camping, picnicing and hiking in outdoor environments became increasingly popular pastimes. Many of the parks established during this time were selected more for their scenic and outdoor recreation qualities than for their special natural features or conservation values. In response to a burgeoning demand for backcountry recreation and a growing environmental awareness, the 1970s and 80s saw the filling out of the park system with more wilderness parks, marine parks and special feature parks. Many of these parks were established primarily to conserve significant natural environments and to provide spectacular opportunities for backcountry recreation.

Thus, today's park system is spread out across the province and reflects a diverse set of needs and desires. It has been shaped to serve a broad spectrum of users (from the local resident to the backcountry recreation enthusiast). One of the aims of Parks Plan 90 is to anticipate the future and address the changing needs and priorities of society.

The Value of Recreation in the Park System

Social Values

Parks, as places in which to recreate, provide a variety of social benefits. Results of several household surveys, conducted by BC Parks in 1989, indicate that more than 50% of B.C. residents had used a provincial park in the past year and felt that outdoor recreation was very important to them compared to their other interests. Given a choice, 54% of respondents preferred a holiday in a provincial or national park for camping and other outdoor recreation activities, compared to 32% preferring a holiday in a resort. In addition, 50% of respondents strongly agreed that camping was one of the "best" types of vacation a family could take. (One of the probable reasons for this preference is that camping is usually considered a fairly inexpensive holiday.)

British Columbians feel they receive many important benefits from having a provincial park system. For example, 87% of survey respondents indicated that an important benefit of the park system is having "places to go camping", 86% "places to learn about nature", 85% "places to relax", 85% "places to do other outdoor recreation", and 82% "places to spend time with family and friends".

Parks also provide society with less tangible social benefits. Foremost, the opportunity to recreate in natural and scenic environments is of immeasurable value to the physical and mental well-being of the individual and the family. Research continues to indicate that North Americans are motivated to participate in outdoor recreation primarily a) for fitness and health, b) for challenge, excitement or a change of pace, c) to experience self and nature, d) to develop relationships with friends and family and e) to satisfy the need for space. As well, experiencing and enjoying natural settings can engender understanding of the environment and a sense of shared responsibility for its conservation. Visitor programs help to educate the public about the unique natural, cultural and recreational resources of our parks and in turn allow visitors to more fully appreciate their surroundings and make use of the opportunities available.

Economic Values

It is also important to recognize the increasingly large role of tourism in the provincial economy and the critical function parks play by providing province-wide opportunities for a diversity of high-quality outdoor recreation experiences. Many of the system's parks attract tourists from all over the world and encourage B.C. residents to spend their holidays in the province.

In 1989 alone, BC Parks recorded more than 21 million visits, with an estimated direct annual economic benefit of more than \$400 million. While much of a visitor's time and money may be spent outside of a particular park, it is often the park that gives definition to a region and draws the visitor to that region in the first place.

The B.C. tourism industry has grown tremendously over the years to make it B.C.'s number one employer and second largest industry (\$4 billion in revenues anticipated for 1990; Ministry of Tourism). The industry continues to successfully promote itself to world markets using the "Super, Natural B.C." slogan. BC Parks role is pivotal in this regard, since the park system contains the best of "Super, Natural B.C."

BC Parks are also a cornerstone to new and growing economic sectors such as adventure tourism, (currently worth \$150 million and expanding at 20% per year; Wilderness Tourism Council), eco-tourism and trekking. Identifying, securing and protecting B.C.'s best landscapes, special natural features, wilderness areas and recreational settings as parks along the major tourism travel routes of the province or elsewhere as destinations in their own right is, therefore, an investment in the long-term viability and growth of the tourism industry and provincial economy. To further ensure success in B.C., the private and public sectors must begin to work together more closely; we must all recognize and capitalize on the unique contributions that each of the many players make to the provision of outdoor recreation in this province.

Influence of the 1990's

Societal Trends

As we move toward the 21st century and set out our new goals and objectives for recreation in the park system, we must concern ourselves with emerging societal trends and, more specifically, changes in the recreation scene.

The 1990s bring a much more knowledgeable, assertive and environmentally aware public. This public recognizes that, on a global scale, our natural areas are rapidly being lost or reduced in size and, as a result, values them more than ever. Related to this is an increasing concern with physical fitness and health and a growing sense that "quality of life", good health and outdoor recreation are inextricably linked. As our world continues to shrink, people will travel more and increasingly seek out our park lands as their prime destinations and places in which to recreate. In turn, concern over how these lands are managed, and demands for a greater degree of public involvement in the planning and management process will rise.

Changes in the age structure and ethnic make-up of our population will also influence the way BC Parks carries out its mandate. The B.C. Ministry of Finance and Corporate Relations' population forecasts for B.C. state that the number of residents over 65 years of age will increase from 409,000 (13.1%) in 1990 to 862,400 (18.4%) in 2016 and that this increased number of seniors will cause "nothing less than a social revolution". This presents BC Parks with the challenge to provide park facilities and services that will better attract and serve our aging public. The cultural diversity of B.C. is also growing, due to an increasingly strong native cultural presence, and the growing numbers of residents of a variety of ethnic origins. This will necessitate consideration of cultural differences in the provision of outdoor recreation opportunities. If embraced as opportunities, these changes will enrich both society and the tourism potential of the province.

Changes in the Recreation Scene

The recreation scene in B.C., as elsewhere, is changing rapidly. Recorded visits to provincial parks have increased by more than 40% in the past 10 years. The introduction of the mountain bike, sailboard, river raft, etc., have revolutionized the ways in which we experience the outdoors. The growth in adventure tourism and demands for other forms of backcountry recreation are further evidence of change. In general, peoples' demands are increasing for different kinds of use as well as for more use. In light of the economic and social value of parks and recreation, BC Parks must be sensitive to and, where appropriate, adapt to these demands.

Ministry surveys presently show that the popularity of day hiking and downhill skiing is up (from 49% in 1983 to 56% in 1989). They also indicate that a preference for flush toilets, showers and other "comforts" at provincial park campgrounds continues to be very strong (82% in 1983 and 83% in 1989). Changes in the popularity of various recreational activities and in the preference for certain types of facilities and services are frequent and must therefore be monitored on a regular basis.

The number of suppliers of outdoor recreation is also growing, making the need for integration between suppliers in the private and public sectors urgent. (For a description of the major suppliers see "Appendix 5: BC Parks Relationship to Other Major Suppliers", page 59). Within the adventure tourism industry alone, there are hundreds of private operators offering activities ranging from heli-skiing, horseback riding and river rafting to nature observation tours. In the absence of a cooperative and coordinated approach, competition will continue to increase to the detriment of all sectors and ultimately of the public. Individualism will no longer work.

Potentials of the Park System Today

B.C. is in the enviable position of having the option to shape future opportunities for outdoor recreation. Few jurisdictions in North America have such an option. This is largely due to the fact that more than 90% of British Columbia is still crown land. Moreover, this land is spectacular and unusually diverse, geographically and biologically, providing B.C. with recreation resources of enormous potential.

We must take this opportunity to think ahead. This is our chance to enhance the park system by adding what is of value to the rich diversity of peoples in this province. This report is our invitation and challenge to B.C. residents to help decide the future of their park system now; to think globally and act locally. The public is encouraged to participate by commenting on the four proposed recreation goals, helping to identify areas to be studied as possible park additions, and supporting the acquisition and protection of these new areas.

Recreation Goals for BC Parks

BC Parks wants to become an international leader in providing inspiring outdoor recreation experiences. Our long term vision is to contribute toward B.C.'s ability to achieve a provincial and international reputation for providing:

- ❑ World class tourism travel routes along our major highways, our coast and on our major lake systems, by providing park attractions and services that enhance the major routes of the province.
- ❑ Natural area holiday destinations by protecting and managing the province's most important outdoor recreation lands as public parks;
- ❑ Superlative backcountry recreation by protecting and managing the province's most outstanding backcountry/wilderness recreation settings; and
- ❑ All residents of the province with the assurance of having reasonable access to local outdoor recreation opportunities, by planning park lands to serve local needs.

The following proposed recreation goals for BC Parks are intended to help us achieve our long term vision, to heighten the social and economic values of our parks, and to be responsive to emerging societal and recreational trends of the 1990s. More specifically, they are meant to guide the selection of new park lands as part of the Parks Plan 90 effort to build a world class park system.

The result will be a park system with recreation attractions that draw visitors from around the world and which are regarded as a birthright that is cherished by all residents of the province.

Goal 1: Tourism Travel Routes

Our first goal is to provide park attractions and services which enhance the province's major tourism travel routes.

The long term goal is to achieve a provincial and international reputation for providing world class tourism travel routes along our major highways, our coast and on our major lake systems.

In order to achieve this goal, BC Parks recognizes that it is only one of the many players that must work in partnership. As the stewards of the best of "Super, Natural B.C.", BC Parks wishes to focus the energy of the public and private sector suppliers to work together in enhancing the tourism travel routes of the province.

Government, as a whole, provides the infrastructure; the park land base and the transportation services. The private sector, in cooperation with government, ensures the provision of a diverse and attractive range of outdoor recreation facilities and services.

BC Parks will pursue this goal by:

- ❑ Committing to the comprehensive development of the concept of tourism travel routes.
- ❑ Identifying and protecting key outdoor recreational resources and attributes of each of the province's major tourism travel routes.
- ❑ Planning park attractions and services in partnership with the other public and private sector suppliers to enhance the travel routes of the province. Park lands should serve as focal attractions and provide essential services to accommodate all recreational travellers, in support of the long term viability of tourism travel in the province.

Specific Park Land Selection Criteria for Goal 1:

- ❑ Lands which capture key recreational attributes and the character of each of the major tourism travel routes in the province.
- ❑ Wherever possible, special features (as defined by the BC Park Special Feature Goal and identified in *Special Features for BC Parks*) will be selected to serve as attractions to travel routes.
- ❑ Strategically located lands to serve as stopovers and to complement the Ministry of Transportation and Highways road side rest areas. Needs will vary according to the particular characteristics of the travel route (e.g. location of population centers and the presence of other suppliers). Stopovers will feature camping convenient to highway routes and safe anchorages/camping spots on the coast and inland lakes.
- ❑ Keys lands and features along the protected waterways of the west coast inside passage to create a world-renowned marine travel route and to ensure the recreation potential of B.C.'s coast is better realized.
- ❑ Resources protected should feature (but not be limited to) high quality opportunities for: picnicing; camping; swimming and water sports; boating — power, sail, paddling; strolling and hiking; nature appreciation; fishing; horseback riding; diving; other specialized activities — climbing, spelunking, river rafting, etc., as appropriate to the travel route.

Goal 2: Outdoor Recreation Holiday Destinations

Our second goal is to provide park attractions that serve as or enhance outdoor recreation holiday destinations in key areas across the province.

The long term goal is to achieve a provincial and international reputation for providing natural area holiday destinations by protecting and managing the province's most important outdoor recreation lands as public parks.

As in Goal 1, BC Parks, as the stewards of key outdoor recreation lands, plays a lead role in the planning of outdoor recreation holiday destination areas. By working together with local communities, private sector suppliers of outdoor recreation and other government sectors, we believe we can make certain parks become dynamic entities within the region in which they occur. In some cases, a single park may be a destination area in its own right (e.g. Manning Park). In others, a group of parks and private attractions will collectively bring definition to an area and serve as a holiday destination (e.g. Shuswap Lake). Each destination area will have a unique mix of natural settings, features and recreation opportunities and therefore can be packaged/ marketed creatively to draw holiday makers. (It should be noted that this goal focuses upon the road accessible holiday destination areas of the province. The more remote or wilderness destination areas are included in Goal 3: Backcountry)

BC Parks will pursue this goal by:

- ❑ Committing to the comprehensive development of the concept of outdoor recreation holiday destinations.
- ❑ Identifying, protecting and managing key park/recreation areas of the province that would serve as complete holiday areas unto themselves or that would provide an essential ingredient to a group of park and private attractions that collectively serve as an unforgettable holiday destination.
- ❑ Planning park facilities and services to encourage extended family vacations (with an average length of stay of three nights or more).
- ❑ Working with the public and private sector to make the area function as a destination.

BC Parks role may range from one of leadership in areas not yet well established (e.g. Babine Lake) to a more supportive and complementary role in already well established areas (e.g. Squamish/Whistler).

Specific Park Land Selection Criteria for Goal 2:

- ❑ Areas of provincial significance with the potential of attracting people for extended vacations.
- ❑ Wherever possible, special features as identified in *Special Features for BC Parks* and proposed study areas as identified in *Landscapes for BC Parks* will be selected to enhance the key holiday destination areas of the province.
- ❑ Resources protected should feature the widest possible variety of recreation opportunities. Opportunities should include the traditional provincial park activities of camping; swimming and water sports; boating — power, sail and paddling; strolling and hiking; nature appreciation; fishing; winter sports — snowplay, cross-country skiing; horseback riding; diving; other specialized activities. Other opportunities reflecting emerging interests of society should be considered for selected parks. For example: public support for cabin or cottage accommodation in provincial parks has grown strongly from 38% in 1983 to 55% in 1989; demands for other types of facilities may be accelerated due to our aging population.

Goal 3: Backcountry Adventures

Our third goal is to provide outstanding backcountry adventure recreation experiences across the province.

The long term goal is to achieve a provincial and international reputation for providing superlative backcountry recreation by protecting and managing the province's most outstanding backcountry recreation settings.

As a cornerstone to growing economic sectors such as adventure tourism, ecotourism and trekking, BC Parks' role in the provision of outstanding backcountry recreation experiences is pivotal.

BC Parks will pursue this goal by:

- ☐ Identifying and protecting the most outstanding backcountry recreation settings of the province as public parks.
- ☐ Planning backcountry parks in partnership with the private sector and other public agencies to provide for a full spectrum of backcountry opportunities. Opportunities should range from pristine wilderness to areas with commercially provided accommodation and/or transportation.
- ☐ Managing backcountry park areas to ensure the long term integrity of the wilderness experience.

Specific Park Land Selection Criteria for Goal 3:

- ☐ Large, expansive natural areas which provide for wilderness settings and experiences.
- ☐ Wherever possible, large park lands should be chosen for landscape representation as well as outstanding backcountry recreation value (as identified in *Landscapes for BC Parks*).
- ☐ Additional large backcountry areas (e.g. beyond landscape representation) to be added to the park system should be of provincial or national significance.
- ☐ Resources protected should feature high quality opportunities for compatible, backcountry recreation activities throughout the year, such as: backpacking, climbing, hut to hut trekking, heli-hiking, canoeing, kayaking, river rafting, nature appreciation, fishing, hunting, ski touring, snowshoeing, heli-skiing, etc.
- ☐ In some cases, small park areas may be designated (in cooperation with other agencies) as key access points or camping areas for large crown land areas presently used for backcountry recreation (e.g. access points on large remote northern rivers, lake systems or historic travel routes).
- ☐ In remote, coastal areas a group of small park areas may be designated to provide for backcountry boating (power, sail or paddle) experiences.

Goal 4: Local Recreation

Our fourth goal is to ensure access to local outdoor recreation opportunities for all residents of the province.

BC Parks will pursue this goal by:

- ❑ Ensuring that the recreational needs of local residents are incorporated in the process of identifying and protecting the key outdoor recreation lands/areas of the province to achieve goals one to three. Since many of our communities are located along the major tourism travel routes of the province or in B.C.'s key destination areas, local residents will directly benefit from any park lands added to enhance and serve travel routes or destination areas. Many of our more remote communities will benefit from the addition of backcountry park lands.
- ❑ Providing better public information about the facilities, services and recreational opportunities available in provincial parks.
- ❑ Designating parks specifically to meet local residents' needs until local government can assume responsibility and management. Note that such local park designation will only occur under special circumstances, where another level of government or other supplier is not immediately available.

There are presently many provincial parks which serve exclusively local recreation needs. Most of these are extremely important locally and should remain as parks (or some equivalent) in perpetuity. However, BC Parks believes that most of these parks would be more appropriately managed directly by the people who live in the vicinity, as part of a regional or municipal park system.

Principles for Park Land Selection and Management

Several overall principles for park land selection and management emerge upon review of the four proposed recreation goals and associated park land selection criteria. These principles provide a unifying thread and are helpful during the task of evaluating the existing system and selecting candidate areas required to better achieve one or more of the recreation goals.

An Integrated System Featuring Variety

- ❑ All parks should serve, to some extent, both conservation and recreation goals. For example, landscape and special feature lands will be managed to contribute to one or more of the four recreation goals.
- ❑ Most parks should contribute to several recreation goals.
- ❑ Some parks will provide a variety of opportunities, some only a single opportunity, but collectively they should ensure a variety of recreation types for all seasons, ages and levels of expertise.

Recreation Activities Should Reflect the Conservation Values of Parks

- ❑ Possibilities for recreational opportunities in our parks are essentially limitless. The only limits (e.g. on approved recreational activities or levels of use) will result from:
 - a) the role of provincial parks to provide for the experience of recreating in a primarily natural setting;
 - b) the fundamental obligation of BC Parks to protect the park resources in question; or
 - c) the desire to avoid conflict with visitors' expectations for a particular park or region.

Accessibility

- ❑ The provincial park system should be accessible to all residents of the province.
- ❑ Some park opportunities should exist within reasonable distance of all population centers.
- ❑ Some park opportunities should be available for all individuals regardless of mobility.
- ❑ BC Parks should continue to strive to better inform the public about the facilities, services and recreational opportunities provided in provincial parks.

Valued by all Residents

- ☐ Park recreation opportunities should represent the values and interests of all segments of society (and thereby attract and serve both traditional and less traditional park users).
- ☐ BC Parks should continue to closely monitor emerging socio-economic trends and growth and change in recreation demand.
- ☐ BC Parks should continue to strengthen its role in educating the public about the natural, cultural and recreational resources of the park system and about the environment in general.

Tourism Value

- ☐ The provincial park system serves as a major draw to tourism in B.C. and therefore should be planned and managed to re-enforce that role.
- ☐ The tourism value of parks should be enhanced through participatory planning with tourism industry associations, local communities, private sector suppliers of outdoor recreation, and other government sectors.

Provincial Parks Should Complement Other Suppliers

- ☐ Provincial parks should be designated and managed to complement the efforts of other agencies, levels of government and other suppliers of outdoor recreation.

Quality and Consistency

- ☐ Recreation settings, facilities and services of BC Parks should be of the highest quality to encourage standards of excellence throughout B.C. by all complementary suppliers.

Resource Protection is the Ultimate Management Priority

- ☐ All recreation facilities and services will be planned to ensure that the key resource values are protected for the inspiration, enjoyment and use of future generations.

Evaluation of the Existing Park System and Study Areas to Achieve the Recreation Goals

In this section the existing park system is evaluated in light of each of the four proposed recreation goals. The evaluation is based on the adequacy of the park land base to achieve each goal; the land base is rated as either adequate, near adequate or inadequate.

Where the existing land base is determined to be less than adequate to achieve a particular recreation goal, areas are identified for study as possible park additions. It must be stressed that BC Parks' knowledge of, and therefore commitment to, the identified study areas is not always equal. It is hoped that public input will not only help us to determine which areas are of highest priority for further study and subsequent proposal as new parks, but also help us to identify additional/alternative areas for study.

Of note, this evaluation does not attempt to take into account or forecast future demand for recreational use. Future demand will be considered both in deciding the timing of new park designations and during a further public process of shaping the policies and strategies to provide the facilities and services on park land (particularly those related to priorities and timing of new park developments).

Goal 1: Tourism Travel Routes

For the purpose of evaluating the existing park system's achievement of this goal (to provide park attractions and services which enhance the province's major tourism travel routes), BC Parks has identified 21 major tourism travel routes; 19 of these are land-based; 2 are marine/water based. These routes are depicted on the map on the following page. As noted in the route descriptions in Appendix 1 (page 27), several routes have feeder or connecting highways that are considered part of the major travel route, but which are not necessarily shown on the map.

Each route was analyzed to define its key recreational themes (examples of the major themes include: shoreline activities; boating; landscape, cultural heritage, vegetation and/or wildlife viewing/appreciation; winter use; and camping). Each theme was then assessed to determine how well the existing park land base captured or provided for that theme. In sum, three of the travel routes are considered to have an adequate land base in existing provincial parks and/or other protected areas, while 18 have some degree of shortcomings.

Appendix 1 provides a brief description of each travel route, an assessment of how well the route is being served by existing parks, and, where appropriate, identifies the gaps in the system by setting out priorities for additional park lands. Finally, study areas to help meet some of the shortcomings are proposed. This initial list of study areas is not intended to be final or comprehensive at this time.



Tourism Travel Routes

This map depicts the major tourism travel routes of the province. Many routes include feeder or connecting highways, industrial road connections, alternate routes, etc., that may not be clearly identified on the map, but which will be considered in planning for the route.

- | | |
|--|---|
| T-1: Highways #1 + #19 (Island Highway):
Victoria to Cape Scott | T-11: Highway #6: Vernon to Crescent Valley |
| T-2: Highway #4: Parksville to Tofino | T-12: Highway #97: Shuswap Lake to Osoyoos |
| T-3: Highway #14: Victoria to Jordan River | T-13: Highway #97: Cache Creek to Dawson Creek |
| T-4: Highway #28: Campbell River to Gold River | T-14: Highway #20: Williams Lake to Bella Coola |
| T-5: Highway #101: Lund to Gibsons | T-15: Highway #37: Kitwanga to Watson Lake |
| T-6: Highways #99 + #12: Vancouver to Cache
Creek | T-16: Highway #97: Alaska Highway: Dawson
Creek to Watson Lake |
| T-7: Highway #1 + #7: Vancouver to Kicking
Horse Pass | T-17: Highway #16: Prince Rupert to Mt. Robson |
| T-8: Highway #3: Princeton to Sparwood | T-18: Haines Highway: Haines to Haines Junction |
| T-9: Highway #5: Hope to Tete Jaune Cache | T-19: Skagway Road: Skagway to Carcross |
| T-10: Highway #95 + #93: Golden to Montana
Border | T-20: Inside Passage Marine Travel Route:
Vancouver to Stewart |
| | T-21: Kootenay Reservoirs Boating Travel Routes |

We need your help to review the adequacy of our a) identification of key travel routes, b) evaluation of the existing park land base, and c) selection of study areas to meet some of the shortcomings. While our intention is to prepare a refined list of study areas upon completion of public review, it is recognized that our smaller recreation parks will require periodic re-examination to ensure that changing recreation needs are met in the years ahead.

Goal 2: Outdoor Recreation Holiday Destinations

BC Parks identified and evaluated potential and existing outdoor recreation holiday destination areas to determine how well we meet our goal to provide park attractions that serve as or enhance these key areas.

At present, BC Parks has identified 22 outdoor recreation holiday destination areas across the province. While many of these have already achieved provincial or international reputations, others are not yet well defined/serviced, but are nevertheless identified here because of their high potential for attracting people for extended outdoor recreation vacations. The destination areas are depicted on the map on the facing page. The boundaries indicated on the map are by no means definitive and are only intended to indicate the general areas of attraction.

Similar to the assessment of travel routes, gaps in the system were identified by assessing how well the key recreation resources or attributes of each destination area were captured and serviced by existing parks and other protected areas. In sum, four of the destination areas are considered to have an adequate land base in the existing park system, while 18 require additional park lands to achieve their potential.

Appendix 2 (page 37) provides a brief description of each destination area, the shortcomings of the existing system and a list of study areas.

Again, this list of study areas is only preliminary. We need your help to review the adequacy of our a) identification of destination areas, b) evaluation of the existing park land base in those areas, and c) selection of study areas to meet some of the shortcomings. It should be noted that as recreation patterns change over time, periodic re-examination of holiday destination park lands will be required in the years ahead.



Outdoor Recreation Holiday Destinations

This map depicts the areas identified as currently serving, or having potential to serve, as outdoor recreation holiday destinations of the province. These are the road accessible destinations; the more remote or wilderness destination areas are included in Goal 3: Backcountry.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| D-1: Southeast Vancouver Island (including southern Gulf Islands) | D-12: Southern Rocky Mountain Trench |
| D-2: Courtenay to Campbell River | D-13: Clearwater/Mahood |
| D-3: Pacific Rim | D-14: Green/Bridge Lake |
| D-4: Sunshine Coast | D-15: Quesnel/Horsefly Lake System |
| D-5: Squamish/Whistler | D-16: Mt. Robson |
| D-6: Lower Mainland | D-17: Peace Country |
| D-7: Manning | D-18: Carp Lake |
| D-8: Nicola Valley | D-19: Babine Lake |
| D-9: Shuswap Lake | D-20: Lakelse |
| D-10: Okanagan Valley | D-21: Queen Charlotte Islands |
| D-11: Southwest Kootenays | D-22: Atlin |

Goal 3: Backcountry

In evaluating our ability to provide outstanding backcountry adventure recreation experiences throughout the province, we identified 50 provincial parks and recreation areas which provide outstanding backcountry recreation opportunities. There are, however, many other areas in the province which offer provincially or nationally significant backcountry recreation opportunities.

In pursuing this goal, it is recognized that backcountry recreation directly relates to and is strongly influenced by the park system's conservation goal of protecting large area examples of each of the province's 59 distinct landscapes. As such, most of the proposed large study areas help to both achieve the landscape representation goal and protect outstanding backcountry recreation values.

Some of the large study areas, however, are not needed to satisfy landscape representation, but are nonetheless proposed because their backcountry recreation values are so high that we feel they should be considered for addition to the park system.

Upon preliminary evaluation of the province's backcountry resource, 41 study areas have been identified. The study areas can be found on the map on the following page. Twenty-three of these study areas have been identified to contribute to both the landscape representation and backcountry goals, while 18 of them have been identified solely because of their backcountry recreation values.

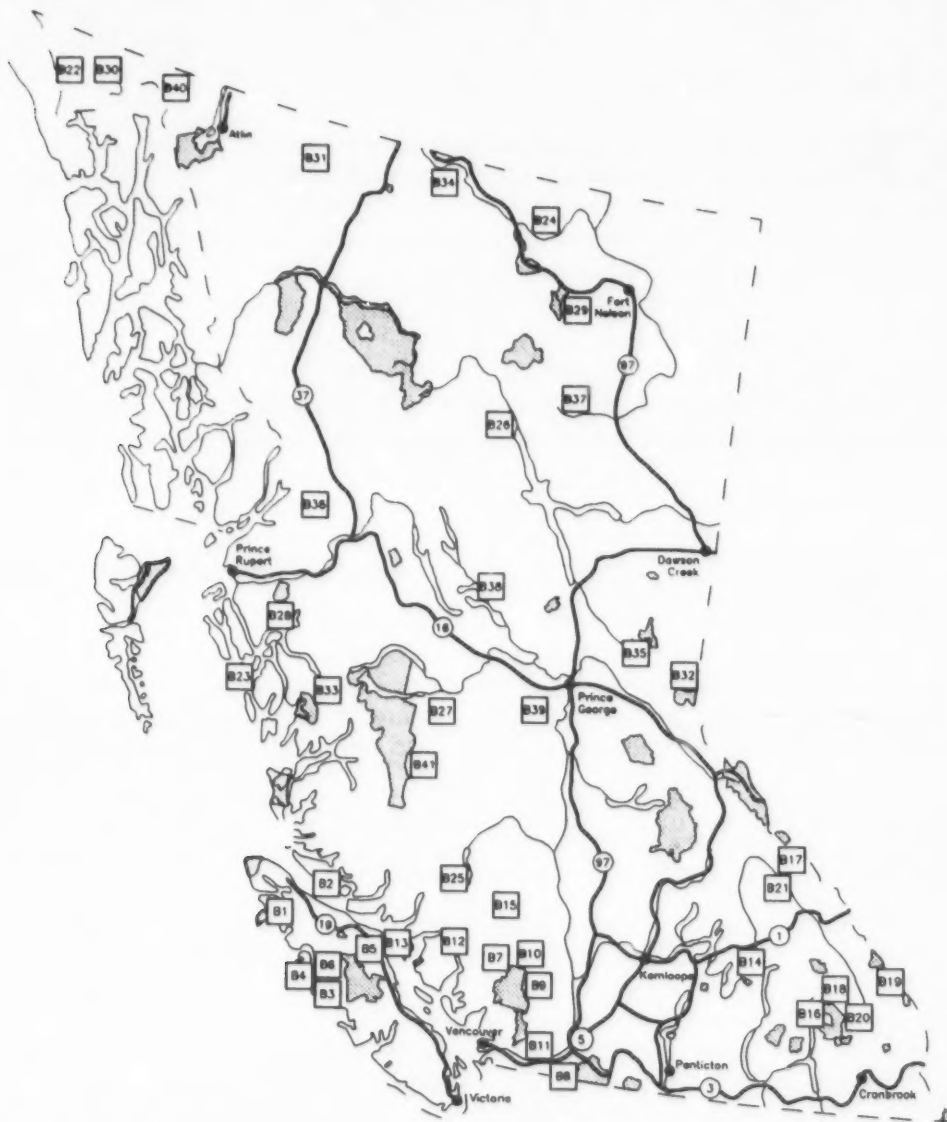
Appendix 3 (page 45) provides a brief description of the opportunities provided by the existing "backcountry parks and recreation areas" and, more importantly, a preliminary list of study areas identified for their outstanding backcountry recreation value. Also included is a list of reconnaissance areas — additional areas which have been noted as requiring further investigation to determine if they should be considered for addition to the park system.

Once again, our evaluation is only preliminary. We need your help in reviewing and refining our list of the province's most significant backcountry recreation settings. With public input, we expect to prepare a definitive list of these study areas for possible addition to the park system.

Backcountry Study Areas

B-1: Brooks Peninsula Addition
B-2: Broughton Archipelago (Kwakiutl)
B-3: Clayoquot Sound Area
B-4: Nootka Sound
B-5: Strathcona Addition (E)
B-6: Strathcona Addition (W)
B-7: Callaghan Lake
B-8: Chilliwack Lake Addition
B-9: Garibaldi Addition (E)
B-10: Garibaldi Addition (N)
B-11: Golden Ears (Alouette Lake)

B-12: Princess Louisa
B-13: Quadra/Cortes Sites
B-14: Monashee Addition
B-15: South Chilcotin
B-16: Carney Creek
B-17: Clemenceau Glacier
B-18: Lake-of-the-Hanging Glacier
B-19: Mt. Assiniboine Addition
B-20: Purcell (East Side)
B-21: Sir Sandford
B-22: Alsek-Tatshenshini Rivers



Backcountry Study Areas (Continued)

- | | |
|---|--|
| B-23: Campania Island | B-32: Kakwa Addition (North) |
| B-24: Cariboo Mountains-Grayling River | B-33: Kitlope Basin |
| B-25: Chilko Lake | B-34: Liard Eskers |
| B-26: Edbird-Estella Lakes | B-35: Monkman Additions |
| B-27: Eliguk Lake | B-36: Nisga'a (Aiyansh) |
| B-28: Foch, Gilttoyes, Miskatlia, Sue
Channel and Coste Rock | B-37: Redfern Lake |
| B-29: Foothills | B-38: Takla/Trembleur/Stuart Lakes Sites |
| B-30: Haines Highway Corridor | B-39: Titetown Lake |
| B-31: Jennings Lake | B-40: Tutshi-Skagway Corridor |
| | B-41: Tweedsmuir Additions (3) |

Goal 4: Local Recreation

In our evaluation of Goal 4 (to ensure access to local outdoor recreation opportunities for all residents of the province) we determined that the vast majority of existing provincial parks provide such opportunities. In addition, many of the study areas identified to help meet the other recreation or conservation goals will also, if added to the park system, contribute to local recreation.

As a result, no study areas are being proposed specifically to achieve this goal. However, BC Parks has identified 46 existing parks (listed in Appendix 4, page 55) which exclusively serve local needs. Due to their local significance, BC Parks will help to ensure that they are maintained as parks (or some equivalent) in perpetuity, but will actively search for a more appropriate agency to assume responsibility and management.

Implementation Process

This document, as part of the Parks Plan 90 process, is intended to stimulate discussion on BC Parks' four proposed recreation goals, and to identify study areas as possible candidate lands to meet shortcomings in the land base required to meet those goals.

(It is not intended to address the policies and strategies to provide the facilities and services to meet those goals. These will be addressed by a separate public process to follow Parks Plan 90.)

The list of study areas presented in this document is preliminary. A more refined list and action plan will be prepared upon completion of a widespread public review process. The action plan will outline the process and timetable to be used to designate new park lands as we work toward completing the B.C. Park system. This list and action plan will then be submitted to Cabinet for approval. At the conclusion of Parks Plan 90, a comprehensive list of large study areas should be set. However, we believe that our smaller recreation park lands and study areas will require periodic re-examination to ensure that changing recreation needs and patterns are met in the years ahead.

To help focus public input and discussion on Parks Plan 90, we present a summary of the results of our evaluation of the existing park system for each of our six park system goals (4 recreation goals and 2 conservation goals) in map and table form, in a separate publication entitled "Park Plan 90: Draft Working Map - Areas of Interest to BC Parks".

We encourage you to participate by writing to us and/or attending one of our many public open houses or meetings in early 1991. (A comment form is provided at the back of this document).

Comments can be mailed to:

Parks Plan 90
BC Parks
800 Johnson Street
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 1X4

Upon completion of this review of the land base required to meet the recreation goals for BC Parks, we will initiate a further public process to address the policies and strategies to provide the facilities and services to meet those goals.

We will encourage all sectors of the public to participate in this process as well. The types of questions that will be raised include:

- ☐ How do we work with other agencies, levels of government, the private sector, volunteers, etc., to ensure quality services and facilities along our tourism travel routes, and at our outdoor recreation holiday destinations and backcountry areas?
- ☐ What can we learn from experiences elsewhere in the world?
- ☐ How do we expand the use of parks to serve all sectors of society (e.g. aging society and different cultural sectors of society)?
- ☐ What mix of public and private attractions are appropriate for each of our major tourism travel routes?
- ☐ Should special lodging, food services or additional recreational pursuits such as golfing be available in, adjacent to, or near destination parks?
- ☐ What range of suitable services should we pursue to facilitate access to our system of backcountry parks?
- ☐ How do we establish limits on the types of approved recreational activities and levels of use in order to avoid conflicts among different recreation interests?
- ☐ How do we stay abreast of the changing recreation needs of society, while ensuring that park resources are protected in perpetuity?

We will provide further information on the process to involve the public in these issues in the spring of 1991.

RECREATION GOALS

for BC Parks



Appendix 1

Tourism Travel Routes

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Goal 1: Tourism Travel Routes

Goal 1 is to provide park attractions and services which enhance the province's major tourism travel routes.

The following provides a brief description of each travel route, our initial assessment of how well the route is being served by existing parks and, where appropriate, sets out priorities for additional park land to address gaps in the system. Finally, study areas to help meet some of the shortcomings are proposed. This initial list is not intended to be final or comprehensive at this time. Since these study areas, like existing parks, may contribute to one or more of the recreation and conservation goals, a matrix indicating each area's contribution by goal is presented.*

Tourism Travel Routes of B.C. (see map page 19)

T-1: Highways #1 + #19 (Island Highway): Victoria to Cape Scott

Description: The major north-south artery for Vancouver Island; features outstanding scenic attractions, sheltered coastal shorelines, pastoral landscapes, coastal forests; provides links to circle tours of the Sunshine Coast and Gulf Islands, and links to the Inside Passage and west coast waterways.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to the marine shoreline; access to rivers; increased opportunities to camp; opportunities to view old growth forest.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Rock Bay	x			x		
Cowichan River	x	x		x	x	x

T-2: Highway #4: Parksville to Tofino

Description: The east-west route across central Vancouver Island, linking the east and west coasts; features lakes, old growth forest and outstanding west coast scenery; potential circle tour link to Courtenay.

Considered to have adequate land base in existing provincial and national parks.

*Matrix Legend

x	Indicates that the study area contributes in some way to the corresponding goal.
TrRte	Recreation Goal 1: To provide park attractions and services which enhance the province's major tourism travel routes.
Dest	Recreation Goal 2: To provide park attraction that serve as or enhance outdoor recreation holiday destinations in key areas across the province.
Bktry	Recreation Goal 3: To provide outstanding backcountry adventure recreation experiences across the province.
Local	Recreation Goal 4: To ensure access to local outdoor recreation opportunities for all residents of the province.
Lscp	Conservation Goal 1: To protect examples of the most important representative landscapes of BC (as defined in the document <i>Landscapes for BC Parks</i>).
Sp Feat	Conservation Goal 2: To protect B.C.'s special natural and cultural features of international, national and provincial significance (as defined in the document <i>Special Features for BC Parks</i>).

T-3: Highway #14: Victoria to Jordan River

Description: Vancouver Island's south-west shoreline route; features exposed coastline scenery; potential circle tour link back to Island Highway.

Considered to have adequate land base in existing parks.

T-4: Highway #28: Campbell River to Gold River

Description: Another east-west route across Vancouver Island passing through Strathcona Park; features Vancouver Island mountain scenery.

Considered to have adequate land base in existing parks.

T-5: Highway #101: Lund to Gibsons

Description: The Sunshine Coast highway; features outstanding coastal scenery, access to coastal waterways and serves as a key link in the south coast circle tour.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: ocean front sites and increased camping opportunities.

Study Area	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Jervis Inlet Sites	x	x		x		

T-6: Highways #99 + #12: Vancouver to Cache Creek (Side routes: Pemberton to Harrison Lake, Highway #12 to Lytton)

Description: Primary access to the Squamish-Whistler area continuing on as a secondary route through the Coast Mountains to Cache Creek; features "sea to sky" scenery, mountains, lakes and dramatic landscape changes from the coast to the interior of the province.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to lakeshores; opportunities for camping and wildlife viewing (i.e. mountain goats).

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Callaghan Lake	x	x	x	x		
Duffy Lake	x					
Lizzy Creek/ St Agnes Well	x					x
Marble Canyon: Addition	x					x

T-7: Highways #1 + #7: Vancouver to Kicking Horse Pass (Side route: #23)

Description: The major east-west highway connecting Alberta (Calgary) and Vancouver; features scenery of six major mountain ranges and dissects the dry interior plateau; links with several major circle tour opportunities in the southern half of the province.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to the Fraser River; opportunities to view/interpret the fish and bird species associated with the Fraser River, and the waterfowl and shorebirds of the Fraser Delta. Access to the Thompson River; opportunities to view and appreciate the distinct landscapes and cultural heritage; increased opportunities for camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Fraser River/Delta Access Sites: (Strawberry Island)	x			x		x
Goldpan Expansion/Spences Bridge	x			x		
Shuswap Lake Beach Sites	x	x		x		
Steelhead (Thompson River)	x			x		

T-8: Highway #3: Princeton to Sparwood (Side routes #3A, #3B + #22)

Description: The southern-most east-west connector linking southern Alberta (Lethbridge) with Vancouver and southern B.C. with three U.S. states; features an almost complete cross-section of the province, ranging from high mountain passes to near sea-level and from interior wet forests to the sonoran desert; links to several important circle tour routes.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to large lakes; opportunities for viewing and appreciating high mountain passes, interior wet forests, sonoran desert and special features; increased opportunities for camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Christina Lake Sites: (Christina Lake South, Parson Creek, Sandner's Beach, Starchuk Beach, Treadmill Creek)	x	x		x		

T-9: Highway #5: Hope to Tete Jeune Cache (Side routes: #5A, #8, #24 + Clearwater Road)

Description: The major connecting route from Vancouver through the southern interior to Alberta (Edmonton), offering access into the Cariboo and Okanagan; linking to a great variety of circle tour opportunities of the southern/central interior of the province.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Opportunities for access to lakes, fishing and camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Kentucky-Alleyne Addition	x	x		x		
Lac le Jeune/Stake Lake Additions	x	x		x		
Monck Addition	x	x		x		
Paradise Lake	x	x		x		
Stump Lake	x	x		x		

T-10: Highway #95 + #93: Golden to Montana Border (Side route: #95A)

Description: A major north-south connector, following the Rocky Mountain Trench between highways #1 and #3; features spectacular mountain scenery and numerous opportunities to view wildlife.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to large lakes; opportunities to view and appreciate the Rocky Mountains, Purcell Mountains and other special features; and opportunities for camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Windermere Lake Area	x	x		x		
Newgate	x	x		x		

T-11: Highway #6: Vernon to Crescent Valley (Side routes: #23, #31 + #31A)

Description: An east-west connector between the Okanagan and West Kootenays, crossing the Monashee Mountain Range; a generally remote area with no large population centers; features mountain scenery, lakes and evidence of past mining activities; is a major link in an Okanagan-Kootenay circle tour.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to large and small lakes; opportunities to view and appreciate distinct landscapes; and opportunities for camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Whatshan Lake	x			x		
New Denver Bikeway	x			x		
Summit Lake	x			x		

T-12: Highway #97: Shuswap Lake to Osoyoos (Side routes: #97A, #97B + Westside Road)

Description: The north-south artery of the Okanagan; features outstanding warm water lakes and dry interior landscape with intensive agriculture.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to warm water lakes; opportunities to view and appreciate the distinct landscapes and wildlife; and opportunities for camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Okanagan Bikeway	x	x		x		
Okanagan Lake properties	x	x		x		
Osoyoos Lake properties	x	x		x		

T-13: Highway #97: Cache Creek to Dawson Creek

Description: The north-south connector from southern B.C. through Prince George to the Peace River country; features interior plateau lands, the Fraser River and Pine Pass through the Rocky Mountains.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Opportunities for winter use and viewing/appreciating the interior plateau and grasslands, the Rocky Mountains and various species of wildlife.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Cariboo Corridor Site(s) (not yet identified)	x			x		
Peace Corridor/River Sites	x	x		x		x
Pine Pass/Heart Lake	x			x		x
Ten Mile Lake Addition	x			x		

T-14: Highway #20: Williams Lake to Bella Coola

Description: The secondary highway from the Cariboo to the coast, crossing the interior plateau and then plummeting into a coastal fiord; features plateau lakes, coast mountains and a dramatic drive downhill to the coastal river valley.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to lakeshores; opportunities to view and interpret petroglyphs and cultural heritage related to the Chilcotin wars; opportunities to view and appreciate plateau, grassland, mountain and fiord landscapes; and areas suitable for winter use.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Charlotte, Nimpo, Puntzi and Anahim Lake Sites	x			x		
Thorsen Creek	x			x		x
Tweedsmuir Additions	x		x	x		

T-15: Highway #37: Kitwanga to Watson Lake

Description: The "Cassiar Highway" linking Highway #16 with the Yukon; features outstanding wilderness scenery, lakes, rivers and access to wilderness parks; part of the "Golden Circle" touring route.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Glacier viewing and appreciation.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Bear Glacier/Pass	x					x

T-16: Highway #97: Alaska Highway: Dawson Creek to Watson Lake

Description: The first northern B.C. route linking the Peace River area to the Yukon; features outstanding wilderness scenery, access to wilderness parks and exceptional wildlife viewing.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to rivers; opportunities to view special features and camp.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Alaska Highway Major River Access Sites	x			x		
Foothills	x		x		x	
Liard Eskers	x		x	x	x	x
Swan Lake (Alaska Highway)	x					
Whirlpool Canyon/Smith River Falls	x					x

T-17: Highway #16: Prince Rupert to Mt. Robson

Description: The northern east-west route across the province; features Rocky Mountains, interior plateau, fiord landscape, coast mountain scenery, lakes, rivers, major cultural features and outstanding fishing and winter recreation.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to the Upper Fraser River, Nechako River, Bulkley/Skeena River; opportunities to view and appreciate the Rocky Mountain Trench, native cultural features and the Skeena estuaries and fiords; and opportunities for camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Bulkley Junction	x			x		
Lower Skeena River/Estuary Sites: (Eskarbar, Exchamsiks Addition)	x	x		x		x
Nisga'a (Aiyansh)	x	x	x	x	x	x
Purden Lake Addition	x			x		
Rocky Mountain Trench Sites	x			x		

T-18: Haines Highway: Haines to Haines Junction

Description: An outstanding northern wilderness highway route linking the Alaska Highway to the Alaskan port of Haines; features exceptional alpine scenery.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Opportunities to view and appreciate the sea to sky landscape, vegetation zonation, and wildlife (Dall Sheep).

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Haines Highway Corridor	x		x		x	x

T-19: Skagway Road: Skagway to Carcross

Description: An outstanding northern scenic route linking the Alaska Highway to the Alaskan port of Skagway; features exceptional alpine scenery, lakes and gold rush history.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to Tutshi Lake; opportunities to view/interpret the cultural heritage of the area (Klondike Gold Rush) and geologic features; opportunities for winter use.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Tutshi-Skagway Corridor	x		x		x	x

T-20: Inside Passage Marine Travel Route: Vancouver to Stewart

Description: A sheltered waterway unique to the world, stretching the entire length of B.C.'s coastline and linking to Alaska and Washington State waterways; features outstanding coastal scenery, anchorages, marine flora and fauna, cultural features; provides numerous circle tour opportunities and links to coastal communities.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional parks lands are: Boater access to land, anchorage and moorage to support cruising; opportunities for viewing/interpreting native cultural heritage and marine birds and mammals.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Vancouver to Desolation Sound						
Gulf Island Sites:	x	x		x	x	x
(Active Pass Site(s), Cape Keppel, Dionisio Point, James Island Sites)						
Halkett Bay Addition	x			x		
Jervis Inlet Sites	x	x		x		
Lasqueti Island Sites:	x			x		
(Finerty Fegan, Sabine Channel)						
Desolation Sound to Cape Caution						
Quadra/Cortes Sites:	x	x	x	x		x
(Squirrel Cove, Surge Narrows, Von Donop Inlet)						
Rock Bay	x			x		
Sunderland Channel Sites:	x					x
(Forward Harbour, Yorke Island)						
Broughton Archipelago (Kwakwiltl)	x		x	x		x
Blunden Harbour	x					
God's Pocket	x					
Cape Caution to Fiordland						
Smith Sound/Rivers Inlet Sites:	x					x
(Takush Harbour, Dsulish Bay, Cranstown Point, Penrose Island)						
Bella Coola/Bella Bella Marine Sites:	x			x		x
(Restoration Bay, Bachelor Bay, Talheo Hotsprings, Fouquer Bay, Eucott Bay/Hotsprings, Port John, Troup Pass, Gunboat Pass, Ellerslie Lagoon, Sagar Lake)						
Milbanke Sound Sites:	x			x		x
(Codville Lagoon, Jackson Passage, Oliver Cove)						
Fiordland to Prince Rupert						
Campania Island	x		x			x
Douglas Channel/Gardener Canal Sites:	x		x	x	x	x
(Bishop Bay, Barnard Harbour, Brim/Owyacumish, Duckers Islands, Eagle Bay, Foch / Gilttoyees/Miskatlia/Sue Channel and Coste Rock, Gobeil Bay, Kitsaway Anchorage, Shearwater Hot Springs, Verney Pass, Weewanie Hot Spring)						

Study Areas (continued)	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Grenville/Finlayson Channel Sites:	x					x
(Carter Bay, Green Inlet, Klekane Inlet, Klewnuggit Inlet, Lowe Inlet, Union Pass, Horsefly Cove, Goat Cove)						
Kitson Island	x			x		
Pitt-Anger Islands Sites	x					x
Porcher/Stephens Islands Sites:	x			x		x
(Oval Bay, Welcome Harbour)						
Princess Royal Island Sites:	x					
(Loredo Inlet Area)						
Prince Rupert to Stewart						
Work Channel Site(s)	x			x		
Dundas Island Site(s)	x					x
Portland Canal/Observatory Inlet Sites:	x			x		x
(Ford's Cove, Crow Lagoon, Maple Bay, Salmon Cove, Stagoo Bay, Anyox Area, Alice Arm Area, Hastings Arm Area, Wales/Pearse Islands)						

T-21: Kootenay Reservoirs Boating Travel Routes

Description: The interior waterways of Kinbasket, Upper and Lower Arrow, and Kootenay Lakes, and of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers, following the major valleys of the Columbia Mountains; features a variety of opportunities for waterway recreation and touring.

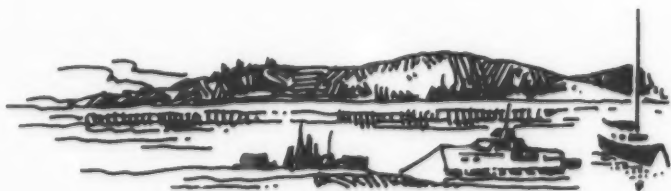
Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to lakeshores; boater access to land, anchorage and moorage to support cruising; increased opportunities for camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Kootenay Lake Sites:	x			x		
Fry Creek Delta Addition						
Revelstoke/Kinbasket Sites:	x			x		
Sprague Peninsula						

RECREATION GOALS

for BC Parks



Appendix 2 Outdoor Recreation Holiday Destinations

Goal 2: Outdoor Recreation Holiday Destinations

Goal two is to provide park attractions that serve as or enhance outdoor recreation holiday destinations in key areas across the province.

The following provides a brief description of each destination area, the shortcomings of the existing park system and a list of study areas. Again, this list of study areas is only preliminary.

Outdoor Recreation Holiday Destination Areas of B.C. (see map, page 21)

D-1: Southeast Vancouver Island (Victoria to Qualicum Beach, including southern Gulf Islands)

Description: The mild climate region of southeast Vancouver Island; features outstanding shoreline, boating, fishing, the Gulf Islands, lakes, rivers, and cultural attractions.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to the marine shoreline; boater access to land, anchorage and moorage to support cruising; and viewing opportunities of rural landscape, dry climate vegetation pattern and marine wildlife.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Gulf Island Sites:	x	x		x	x	x
(Active Pass Site(s), Cape Keppel, Dionisio Point, James Island Sites)						
Cowichan River	x	x		x	x	x

D-2: Courtenay to Campbell River (including adjacent islands)

Description: A continuation of the southern Vancouver Island destination; features warm waters, outstanding shorelines, boating, fishing, northern Gulf Islands, lakes, cultural attractions, mountains, hiking and winter recreation.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Boater access to land, anchorage and moorage to support cruising; increased opportunities for camping, winter use and special feature viewing.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Flora Island/Lambert Channel		x		x		
Quadra/Cortes Sites:	x	x	x	x		x
(Squirrel Cove, Surge Narrows, Von Donop Inlet)						
Strathcona Additions East:		x	x	x	x	
(Elk Mountain, Forbidden Plateau, Forbush Lake)						

D-3: Pacific Rim

Description: The rugged exposed west coast; features expansive beaches, sheltered harbours, boat tours and fishing.

Considered to have adequate land base in Pacific Rim National Park.

D-4: Sunshine Coast

Description: The east side of the Strait of Georgia; features outstanding shoreline, boating, fishing, ferry trips and a more rural atmosphere.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Ocean front sites and increased camping opportunities.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Jervis Inlet Sites	x	x		x		

D-5: Squamish/Whistler

Description: The mountainous Squamish-Whistler area; features spectacular sea to sky landscape, small lakes, hiking, and winter resort recreation.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access (summer) to valley bottoms, lakes and rivers; increased opportunities for camping, winter use and mountain and glacier viewing.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Callaghan Lake	x	x	x	x		

D-6: Lower Mainland

Description: This area includes a variety of mountain, lake and ocean front attractions around the periphery of the population centre that complements and enhances the tremendous cultural focus of the area.

BC Parks recognizes that the land base for parks in the Lower Mainland is not adequate and is working with regional districts and other suppliers to determine how to improve the situation.

D-7: Manning

Description: The mountainous area of Manning and Skagit Parks; features lakes, rivers, fishing, boating, hiking and winter recreation.

Considered to have adequate land base in existing parks.

D-8: Nicola Valley

Description: The lake-dotted plateau lands crossed by the Coquihalla Highway; features ranchland landscape, exceptional fishing, warm lakes and cross-country skiing in a lightly populated area.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to lakeshores and opportunities for camping and winter use.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Kentucky-Alleyne Addition	x	x		x		
Lac Le Jeune/Stake Lake Additions	x	x		x		
Monck Addition	x	x		x		
Paradise Lake	x	x		x		
Stump Lake	x	x		x		

D-9: Shuswap Lake

Description: The northern extension of the warm interior vacation land; features a large, warm water lake system, houseboat holidays, shoreline and water sports and natural settings.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Boater access to land, anchorage and moorage to support cruising; access to the lakeshore/beaches; increased opportunities for landscape viewing and camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Anstey Arm/Hunakwa Lake		x		x		x
Shuswap Lake Beach Sites:	x	x		x		

D-10: Okanagan Valley

Description: The warm dry interior vacation land; features warm lakes, shoreline and water sports, boating, a mix of natural and cultural attractions, and winter recreation.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to lakeshores; boater access to land, anchorage and moorage to support cruising; and increased opportunities for landscape and wildlife viewing and camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Okanagan Lake properties:	x	x		x		
Osoyoos Lake properties	x	x		x		
Okanagan Bikeway	x	x		x		

D-11: Southwest Kootenays

Description: The mountainous southern Kootenays; features warm lakes, mountain passes, rich cultural history and winter recreation.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to lakeshores; boater access to lands, anchorage and moorage to support cruising; and increased opportunities for camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Christina Lake Sites: (Christina Lake North, Christina Lake South, Parson Creek, Sandner's Beach, Starchuk Beach, Treadmill Creek)	x	x		x		x

D-12: Southern Rocky Mountain Trench

Description: The dry valley nestled between the Rocky and Purcell Mountain ranges; features warm water lakes, wildlife viewing and access to wilderness.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to lakeshores; increased opportunities for wildlife viewing and camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Newgate	x	x		x		
Windermere Lake Area	x	x		x		

D-13: Clearwater/Mahood

Description: The Clearwater Valley and road accessible areas of Wells Gray Park and Canim/Mahood Lakes; features natural settings by rivers and lakes, boating, fishing, special natural features and winter recreation.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to lakes; opportunities for camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp. Ft.
Canim Lake		x		x		

D-14: Green/Bridge Lake

Description: Lakes of the Cariboo country; features warm lakes, fishing and distinct ranchland atmosphere.

Considered to have adequate land base in the existing parks.

D-15: Quesnel/Horsefly Lake System

Description: The large lake systems on the transition from the Interior Plateau to the Cariboo Mountains; features boating, fishing and natural attractions.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Opportunities for boating and camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Quesnel/Horsefly Lakes Sites: (yet to be defined)		x		x		x

D-16: Mt. Robson

Description: Focused around the "Monarch of the Rockies"; features the Fraser River, lakes, access to wilderness and outstanding mountain settings.

Considered to have adequate land base in existing parks.

D-17: Peace Country

Description: The Rocky Mountain foothills and B.C. prairies; features lakes, rivers, fishing and river boating in a unique B.C. prairie landscape.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to rivers; opportunities to view and experience the foothills and prairies.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Peace Corridor/River Sites	x	x		x		x
Beatton River Site		x		x		
Murray River Site(s)		x		x		
Pine River Site(s)		x		x		
Rolla Fossil Site		x		x		x

D-18: Carp Lake

Description: A unique northern lake system; features outstanding fishing and boating in a pristine natural setting.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Opportunities for landscape viewing and appreciation.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Carp Hill		x		x		

D-19: Babine Lake

Description: The longest natural lake in B.C.; features boating, fishing and beaches in an expansive natural setting.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to the Babine lake system and boater access to land, anchorage and moorage to support cruising.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Smithers Landing		x		x		
Pendleton		x		x		
Babine Lake Boating System Sites		x		x		

D-20: Lakelse

Description: The common valley at the head of two major coastal fiords; features large rivers, internationally renowned fishing, warm lakes and native cultural attractions.

Considered to have inadequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to rivers; opportunities to view special features.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Lower Skeena River/Estuary Sites: (Eskarbar, Exchamsiks Addition)	x	x		x		x
Nisga'a (Aiyansh)	x	x	x	x	x	x

D-21: Queen Charlotte Island

Description: The "Misty Isles"; features superb coastal scenery and vegetation features, outstanding fishing and wildlife viewing, beaches, lakes and rich native cultural history.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: Access to the rugged pacific coastline; access to lakes; opportunities for island exploration, old growth viewing and camping.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
Rennell Sound		x		x		
Yakoun Lake		x		x		
Gray Bay/Cumshewa Head		x		x		x

D-22: Atlin

Description: The large northern lakes country; features spectacular mountain scenery, boating, fishing, wildlife viewing, Gold Rush and early settlement history and distinct northern lifestyle.

Considered to have near adequate land base in existing parks.

Priorities for additional park lands are: opportunities to view/appreciate special features.

Study Areas	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp.F.
Warm Springs (Atlin Lake)		x		x		

RECREATION GOALS

for BC Parks



Appendix 3 Backcountry

Goal 3: Backcountry

Goal 3 is to provide outstanding backcountry adventure recreation experiences across the province.

The following provides a brief description of the wilderness and recreation opportunities provided by existing "backcountry" parks and recreation areas (RA), and a preliminary list and description of study areas considered to have outstanding backcountry recreation value. Also included is a list of reconnaissance areas — additional areas which have been noted as requiring further investigation to determine if they should be considered for addition to the park system.

Vancouver Island

Existing Parks/Recreation Areas and Themes

Brooks Peninsula RA: Rugged coastal shoreline and vegetation features; remote wilderness.

Cape Scott: Rugged coastal rainforest and wildlife; easy to challenging hiking trails.

Schoen Lake: Low level lake in the Nimpkish Valley; boating, fishing, hiking, mountaineering.

Strathcona: Mountain peaks, deep valleys, alpine meadows, waterfalls, rivers; mountaineering, fishing, swimming, cross-country skiing, wildlife viewing.

Study Areas and Themes

	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
B-1: Brooks Peninsula Addition: Coastal wilderness area featuring serrated mountains with low-elevation alpine and subalpine floral communities and old growth sitka spruce; hiking, boating, canoe/kayak touring. (Subject to existing inter-agency study.)			x		x	x
B-2: Broughton Archipelago (Kwakiutl): Rugged islands and islets of low to moderated relief; excellent sheltered access to west coast marine environment with shell fish, salmon, sea lions, seals; kayak and canoe touring.	x		x	x		x
B-3: Clayoquot Sound Area: Rugged west coast islands and river system; destination area with boating, beaches and inter-tidal marine opportunities. (Subject to existing inter-agency study)			x	x	x	x
B-4: Nootka Sound: Islands of low relief in Nootka Sound on the west coast; sheltered anchorages; natural and human history; boating and camping.			x	x		x
B-5: Strathcona Addition (E): Mountain peaks, glacial lakes and subalpine hiking opportunities.		x	x	x	x	
B-6: Strathcona Addition (W): Wilderness destination area with caves and karst features; hiking.			x		x	x

Reconnaissance areas to be considered for further investigation include: Kyuquot Sound Sites; Raft Cove Addition.

Lower Mainland

Existing Parks/Recreation Areas and Themes

Cypress: Magnificent vistas, rugged mountains; easy to difficult hiking trails.

Desolation Sound (Marine): Premier marine area; boating, fishing, hiking, protected anchorages, warm water lakes.

Mt. Seymour: Magnificent vistas, hiking, mountaineering.

Garibaldi: Mountains, glaciers, lakes, alpine meadows, rivers; hiking, mountaineering, ski-touring.

Lake Lovely Water: Mountain wilderness; access by crossing Squamish river by canoe or small boat; hiking.

Joffre Lakes RA: Three turquoise sub-alpine lakes; hiking.

Mt. Judge Howay: Mountain wilderness area; limited access; hiking, mountaineering.

Golden Ears: Mountain area; access to Alouette Lake; horse and hiking trails of varying difficulty; canoeing, fishing, swimming.

Skagit Valley RA: Warm, dry valley; canoeing, kayaking, hiking, fishing, nature study.

Manning: Mountains, alpine meadows, lakes; hiking and cross-country ski trails, fishing.

Study Areas and Themes

	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
B-7: Callaghan Lake: Largest road accessible, subalpine lake in the coastal mountains; hiking, ski-touring.	x	x	x	x		
B-8: Chilliwack Lake Addition: Series of small, sub-alpine lakes in valley bottom; hiking, viewing.			x	x	x	
B-9: Garibaldi Addition (E): Small cliff area that is a natural extension of the park's goat area; wildlife habitat protection; wildlife viewing, hiking.			x		x	
B-10: Garibaldi Addition (N): Mountainous alpine area with attractive waterfalls and glacial features; mountaineering, hiking.			x			
B-11: Golden Ears (Alouette Lake) Addition: Mountain area providing additional access to Alouette Lake; horse and hiking trails, canoeing, fishing, swimming.		x	x	x	x	
B-12: Princess Louisa: Scenic fiord nestled between glacier capped mountains; boating destination area.			x		x	x
B-13: Quadra/Cortes Sites: Protected anchorages, warm water lakes, salt water lagoons; boating, fishing, hiking, water activities.	x	x	x	x		x

Reconnaissance areas to be considered for further investigation include: Indian Arm-Mt. Seymour Addition; Lillooet Glacier; Mt. Romyne.

Cariboo-Shuswap-Okanagan

Existing Parks and Themes

Wells Gray: Rugged wilderness, icefields, sheer peaks, low level lakes; hiking, canoeing, boating, wildlife viewing.

Cathedral: Jagged peaks, turquoise lakes, alpine meadows; hiking, fishing, wildlife viewing.

Coquihalla Summit: Exfoliated mountain peaks, alpine and sub-alpine lakes, canyons, waterfall and Kettle Valley Railway.

Monashee: Mountain peaks, lush alpine vegetation, forests; hiking, wildlife viewing.

Okanagan Mtn.: Undeveloped Okanagan Lake shoreline, Wild Horse Canyon; water activities; historic pack trails.

Study Areas and Themes

	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
B-14: Monashee Addition: Mountain peaks and alpine; hiking, wildlife viewing.			x			x
B-15: South Chilcotin: Multi-hued mountains, broad undissected ridges, extensive subalpine meadows, lakes; exceptional horseback riding, hiking, fishing.			x		x	x

Reconnaissance areas to be considered for further investigation include: Brent Mountain; Galloping Mountain; Graystoke-Loch Katrine; Lac du Bois; Marble Ranges; Mount Kobau; Snowy Alpine.

Kootenays

Existing Parks/Recreation Areas and Themes

Akamina-Kishinena RA: Mountainous wilderness in southeastern ranges of Rocky Mountains; wildlife viewing, hiking, fishing, ski-touring.

Bugaboo Glacier and Alpine RA: Rugged mountain wilderness; challenging hiking, mountaineering, heli-skiing, heli-hiking.

Elk Lakes: Sub-alpine wilderness; easy access; hiking, fishing, mountaineering.

Kokanee Glacier: Mountain wilderness with more than 30 lakes; historic mining area; numerous trails of varying difficulty; hiking, fishing and ski-touring.

Mt. Assiniboine: Mountain peaks, lakes and extensive subalpine meadows; hiking, mountaineering, ski-touring.

Nancy Greene RA: Mountains and subalpine ridges in Monashee Mountains; hiking, ski-touring.

Purcell Wilderness Conservancy: Rugged mountain wilderness; limited access, few facilities, historic trail. **St. Mary's Alpine:** Mountains, lake-dotted basin, waterfalls; limited access; hiking.

Top of the World: High level/alpine region; superb fishing, hiking, horseback riding.

Valhalla: Jagged peaks, deep river valleys, large sub-alpine lakes; few trail systems; hiking.

Study Areas and Themes	TrRte	Dest	Back	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
B-16: Carney Creek: Mountain wilderness on west slope of Purcells; heli-hiking, horseback riding, hiking.			x		x	
B-17: Clemenceau Glacier: Rugged mountains, glaciers and ice-fields; mountaineering, ski-touring, wilderness backpacking.			x			x
B-18: Lake-of-the-Hanging Glacier: Mountains and subalpine vegetation, lake and glacier; hiking, mountaineering.			x			x
B-19: Mt. Assiniboine Addition: Mountains, lakes and meadows; hiking, backpacking, access to core area of park.			x			x
B-20: Purcell (East Side): Mountain wilderness on east slope of Purcells; wildlife viewing, hunting, ski-touring, horseback riding.			x		x	
B-21: Sir Sandford: Rugged mountains and ice-fields; mountaineering, ski-touring.			x			

Reconnaissance areas to be considered for further investigation include: Akamina-Kishenena Addition; Christina Lake North, Southwest Kootenay Lake.

Northern B.C.

Existing Parks/Recreation Areas and Themes

- Atlin:** In the Tagish highlands of the coast mountains; large ice-fields and glaciers; largest natural lake in B.C.; hiking, fishing, boating.
- Babine Mtns. RA:** Scenic mountains and alpine terrain; many hiking trails; winter recreation.
- Bowron Lake:** In Cariboo mountains; a circuit of lakes, river and streams connected by portages; superb canoe circuit.
- Carp Lake:** An island-dotted lake with many inlets; remnants of a historic trail; canoeing, hiking, fishing.
- Fiordland RA:** Best examples of glacially gouged fiords on B.C. coast, waterfalls; scenic viewing, wildlife (marine and terrestrial) viewing, boating, marine touring.
- Gitnadoix RA:** Kitimat mountains, drainage of Gitnadoix River; old growth; outstanding salmon runs, scenic and wildlife viewing, fishing; access by river boat or air.
- Hakai RA:** Island archipelago, marine wilderness; trophy Pacific salmon fishing; archeology sites; boating, kayaking, diving, fishing, scenic and marine wildlife viewing.
- Hamber:** West of the Continental divide in the Rockies; glaciers, icefields, lakes and rivers; historic trail route used by fur traders and explorers; hiking.
- Kakwa RA:** Rugged mountains, alpine valleys and meadows; scenic viewing, hiking, winter recreation, caving.
- Kwadacha Wilderness:** Rugged limestone peaks of northern Rockies, icefields, turquoise lakes; trails for experienced hiker or horseback rider, hunting, fishing.

Existing Parks/Recreation Areas and Themes

- Monkman:** Alpine lakes, waterfalls, and ice-capped mountains of the Rockies; hiking, fishing, viewing.
- Mt. Edziza:** Largest volcanic area in B.C.; site of lava flows, basalt plateaus and cinder cones; best access by air; archeology sites, hiking, wildlife viewing.
- Mt. Robson:** "The monarch of the Canadian Rockies"; large and small lakes, waterfalls, scenic vistas; many hiking trails, mountaineering.
- Muncho Lake:** Cold, deep turquoise lake in Northern Rockies; wildlife viewing, hiking and fishing.
- Naikoon:** Northeast portion of Graham Island, largest sand spit in B.C.; old growth, marbled murrelets, 100 km of broad, sandy beaches; hiking, water-based recreation.
- Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness:** Spatsizi plateau, Stikine and Klappan Rivers and rugged Skeena mountains; relatively easy hiking, canoeing, wildlife viewing (caribou), hunting; access often by float plane.
- Stikine River RA:** "Grand Canyon" of the Stikine; upper river wilderness canoeing; goat viewing in canyons.
- Stone Mountain:** Rocky Mountain scenery; accessible alpine; spectacular northern valleys; wildlife viewing, hiking.
- Tatlatui:** Tatlatui Lake is focal point; adjoins Spatsizi Plateau; wilderness lakes; fishing, hunting, hiking, wildlife viewing; recommended access by float plane.
- Tweedsmuir:** Largest provincial park; peaks of Quanchus Mtn. range and Coast mountains, lake-and-waterway-dotted Nechako Plateau, Alexander Mackenzie Heritage Trail; fishing, hiking, canoe chain.
- Wokkpash RA:** Hoodoos and gorges; spectacular Rocky Mountain scenery; hiking, wildlife viewing.

Study Areas and Themes

	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
B-22: Alsek-Tatshenshini Rivers: Ranked as one of top ten wilderness rafting rivers in world; exceptional scenery - Mount Fairweather, calving icebergs from glaciers.			x		x	x
B-23: Campania Island: Varied landscape from white sand pocket beaches on exposed SW shoreline to heavily glaciated "savannah" landscape and granite cliffs; fishing, boating, beachcombing.	x		x			x
B-24: Cariboo Mountains-Grayling River: Exceptional hot springs, scenic northern alpine area representing this landscape; karst features, wildlife, hiking, hunting, trail riding.			x		x	x
B-25: Chilko Lake: Large turquoise lake in mountain setting; transition from Coast mountains to Chilcotin Plateau; road accessible and wilderness recreation; boating, fishing, hiking, horse-back riding.			x		x	x
B-26: Edbird-Estella Lakes: Small attractive, turquoise lakes with white, marl bottoms; provides excellent access to larger wilderness area.			x			

Study Areas and Themes (Continued)	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
B-27: Eliguk Lake: Mid-point on the Mackenzie Heritage Trail, this lake provides a starting point for trips along the scenic western portion of the trail through Tweedsmuir Park; archaeological sites; excellent fishery, several fly-in lodges.			x			x
B-28: Foch, Gilttoyees, Miskatlia, Sue Channel and Coste Rock: Small, scenic fiords close to Kitimat; sheltered anchorages; boat touring, diving.	x		x	x	x	x
B-29: Foothills: Extensive, undulating alpine ridges and plateaus in the northern Rockies; excellent wildlife viewing, hunting, hiking.	x		x		x	
B-30: Haines Highway Corridor: Outstanding northern wilderness highway route; easy access to extensive alpine areas; mountain and glacier viewing; dall sheep; bird diversity; hiking, wildlife viewing, skiing, snow-mobiling, hunting.	x		x		x	x
B-31: Jennings Lake: Superb wilderness landscape in the Cassiar Mountains; special features include perfectly circular sub-glacier volcano (tuya); water recreation, hiking; float plane access.			x		x	x
B-32: Kakwa Addition (North): Extensive alpine areas, caves, waterfalls, northern limit of Rocky Mtn. Bighorn sheep; close to proposed townsite for additional northeast coal development; hiking, hunting.			x		x	x
B-33: Kitlope Basin: Large intact coastal watershed; fiord landscape, large estuary, old growth; fish, grizzly bear; fishing, hunting, river boating.			x		x	x
B-34: Liard Eskers: Large esker complex with small lakes adjacent to Alaska Highway; potential for fishing, viewing, hiking, camping.	x		x	x	x	x
B-35: Monkman Additions: Alpine meadows on south side of Monkman Pass; scenic alpine lakes (Limestone Lakes), sub-terranean drainage and resurgence; superb mountain scenery; hiking, hunting, viewing.			x			x
B-36: Nisga'a (Aiyansh): A large, recent (250 years old) lava flow; native history.	x	x	x	x	x	x
B-37: Redfern Lake: Large turquoise lake in northern Rocky Mtn. setting; superb scenery; wildlife, including plains bison; fishing, hiking, viewing, horseback riding, hunting, snowmobiling.			x			x

Study Areas and Themes

	TrRte	Dest	Bktry	Local	Lscp	Sp Feat
B-38: Takla/Trembleur/Stuart Lakes Sites (Germansen Lake, Kazchek Lake and Takla Lake): Large lake systems with high potential as a backcountry boating destination area; camping, fishing, boating.			x			x
B-39: Titetown Lake: Trailhead for the MacKenzie Heritage Trail; boating, hiking.			x			x
B-40: Tutshi-Skagway Corridor: Outstanding northern route linking Alaska Highway with Skagway (Alaska); rugged mountain scenery, attractive lakes, dall sheep, Gold Rush history.	x		x		x	x
B-41: Tweedsmuir Additions (3): Three small areas to protect mountain views, MacKenzie Trail and an important fishing destination (Knot lakes).	x		x	x		

Reconnaissance areas to be considered for further investigation include: Bat Mountain; Brim/Owyacumish Watershed; Burnie Lakes; Dall/Denetian Lakes; Dundas Island; Fiordland Addition; Hedrick/Dezaiko-Arctic/Pacific Lakes; Insect Creek; Junction; Kakwa/Robson (Boundary); Kechika-Gataga River Valley; Klua Lakes; Knudsen Lake; Laurier Pass; Nakina River Basin/Canyon; Obo-Johiah Lakes; Pitt-Anger Islands; Porcher-Stephens Islands; Princess Royal Island; Roche de Boule; Seven Sisters; Swan Lake (Hazelton); Tagish Lake; Teslin-Disella Lakes and Swift River; Tweedsmuir (Ape Lake) Addition; Wales-Pearse Islands; Wapiti-Onion Lakes; Work Channel/Leverson Lake; Yanks Peak.

RECREATION GOALS

for BC Parks



Appendix 4

Local Recreation

Goal 4: Local Recreation

Goal 4 is to ensure access to local outdoor recreation opportunities for all residents of the province.

The following is a list of 46 existing provincial parks which BC Parks has identified as exclusively serving local needs. Due to their local significance, BC Parks will help to ensure that they are maintained as parks (or some equivalent) in perpetuity, but will actively search for a more appropriate agency to assume responsibility and management.

South Coast Region

Southern Interior Region

Park	Nearest City/Town	Park	Nearest City/Town
Arbutus Grove	Nanose Bay	Appledale	Slocan/Winlaw
Beaver Point	Fulford Harbour	Bridge Lake Centennial	93 Mile House/Bridge Lake
Bright Angel	Duncan	Brilliant Terrace	Castlegar
Chaster	Gibsons	Celista	Celista, Scotch Creek
Chemainus River	Chemainus	Elko	Fernie
Eves	Crofton	Erie Creek	Salmo
John Dean	Sidney/Saanichton	Gardom Lake	Enderby
Kawkawa	Hope	Inonoaklin	Edgewood
Kin Beach	Comox	Lardeau	Meadow Creek/Kaslo
Kitty Coleman	Merville	Mara Point	Sicamous
Koksilah	Shawnigan Lake	Nakusp Hot Springs	Nakusp
MacDonald	Sidney	Pearse	Westwold
Matheson Lake	Metchosin	Sutherland Hills	Kelowna
Memory Island	Shawnigan Lake	Truman Dagnus Locheed	Okanagan Landing/Vernon
Morden Colliery	Cedar/Cassidy		
Mouat	Ganges		
Petroglyph	Nanaimo		
Sumas Mtn.	Chilliwack		
Wood Mtn.	Courtenay		

Northern Region

Park	Nearest City/Town
Andy Bailey	Fort Nelson
Canim Lake	100 Mile House
Deadman's Island	Burns Lake
Downing	Clinton
Dunlevy	Hudson's Hope
Ethel F. Wilson Mem.	Burns Lake
Hyland River	Watson Lake (Y.T)
Moose Heights	Quesnel
Pure Lake	Port Clements
Ruth Lake	Forest Grove
Spencer Tuck	Chetwynd
Tarahne	Atlin
Wisteria	Southbank

RECREATION GOALS

for BC Parks

Appendix 5 BC Parks Relationship to Other Suppliers

BC Parks relationship to other suppliers

BC Parks, while the largest, is only one of many suppliers of outdoor recreation opportunities in B.C. What follows is a description of the other major suppliers, their role and their relationship to BC Parks.

Our evaluation of the existing provincial parks system and selection of study areas tries as much as possible to consider the recreation opportunities provided by these other suppliers, in order to complement their efforts and services.

National Parks

The Canadian Parks Service, the federal agency responsible for national parks and national historic sites, has a mandate "to protect for all time those places which are significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage and also to encourage public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of this heritage in ways which leave it unimpaired for future generations".

The Canadian Parks Service is therefore concerned with places of national heritage significance with an emphasis on extensive natural areas. Like provincial parks, national parks provide for a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. The similarity in the purpose and services of the national and provincial parks systems necessitates close coordination. In fact, the Canadian Parks Service has a policy to encourage provincial, territorial, municipal and private agencies to provide for complementary recreation activities and facilities.

Regional and Municipal Parks

The role of regional and municipal parks is to provide regional and community based recreation opportunities.

Regional and municipal parks complement the work of BC Parks and other recreation suppliers by providing opportunities for a variety of recreation activities in close proximity to population centers. Many of these parks are planned and managed to provide local residents with regionally significant and urban or near-urban natural areas and recreation activity areas (i.e. regional parks, neighborhood parks, mini parks/play lots, urban parks). Moreover, their primary purpose is to cater to day use activities, whereas the provincial park system places great emphasis on conserving significant natural environments for extended (overnight) visits.

At present, a small percentage of our provincial parks are Class "C" or community parks. These are gradually being turned over to local governments for administration.

Ministry of Forests

The Ministry of Forests is charged with an overall integrated resource management mandate. One component of this mandate is to ensure that recreation values are considered in all resource management decisions. The ministry's recreation program helps to achieve this mandate.

The recreation program of the Ministry of Forests is meant "to provide the opportunity for recreation experiences and benefits by protecting and managing the use of the provincial forest recreation resource. In relation to BC Parks, this mandate extends to the "provincial forests" outside of parks and settled areas. The provincial forest's recreational resource includes wilderness values, scenic landscapes, cultural and heritage landmarks and developed recreation facilities. The Ministry of Forests maintains a wide variety of road accessible forest recreational opportunities through the development and maintenance of forest service roads, and a network of trails and recreation sites (the Forest Service provides rustic campsites with very basic facilities).

Recently added to the Forest Service's legislated mandate is the responsibility to manage wilderness in provincial forests. The purpose of the Service's new wilderness program is to maintain a wilderness resource and provide opportunities to enjoy a wilderness experience, while also permitting compatible, limited resource use. This complements BC Parks' protection of wilderness, where no resource extraction is permitted. Together, the Ministry of Forests and BC Parks contribute to the mosaic of protected areas in B.C.

Ministry of Crown Lands

The Ministry of Crown Lands is guided by a mission "to serve the people of B.C. by managing and allocating public land to ensure access for industry, commerce, settlement, recreation and conservation uses in a manner that is sensitive to environmental needs and sustainable development".

The Ministry of Crown Lands achieves its mandate through a variety of programs, policies and practices. Access for recreation use is ensured through crown land allocation and disposition programs. For example, the Ministry of Crown Lands grants and administers commercial recreation tenures for activities such as alpine skiing, boating, fishing, hunting and other forms of backcountry recreation use. In addition, prior to granting crown land dispositions, traditional public recreation use is evaluated; the ministry can delete traditional recreation areas, access routes and trail systems from dispositions. The Ministry of Crown Lands can also hold crown land in reserve for certain uses (including land reserves for recreation or conservation) or transfer crown land to other agencies so that they can better carry out their mandates. The ministry also provides a land acquisition service to other provincial ministries such as BC Parks when private land is being purchased.

Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Culture

The Ministry of Municipal Affairs, Recreation and Culture works "to enhance the living standards and enrich the quality of life of the people of B.C. by providing effective leadership, support and service to the community in the areas of culture, local government and safety".

This ministry's Culture, Recreation and Historic Resources Department offers a diverse range of programs, many of which contribute to the province's supply of outdoor recreation. The Sport and Recreation Division encourages residents and agencies to participate in recreation, sport and fitness activities by providing financial support to a wide range of community and provincial organizations. Support is provided to umbrella organizations such as the Outdoor Recreation Council, and to many outdoor recreation groups ranging from the B.C. Division of the Canadian Ski Association to the Orienteering Association of B.C. Funding includes support for programs, organizations, leadership development, coaching development, fitness and participation promotion.

The Cultural Services Branch supports many cultural organizations that relate to the outdoors. An example is their museum assistance program which assists community museums to present the province's natural history to the public. The Heritage Properties Branch manages a network of heritage facilities throughout the province, including Barkerville, Fort Steele, Kilby General Store and Point Ellice House. The wide range of interpretive experiences provided and the quality of artifacts preserved attracts many visitors.

In similar fashion, the B.C. Heritage Trust manages other sites such as the Historic Hat Creek Ranch and the Grist Mill at Keremeos, provides fourteen granting assistance programs to many historic resources located in urban and rural settings and has collaborated with local groups to establish B.C.'s first eco-museum. The Heritage Conservation Branch coordinates heritage legislation policy and is involved in developing regional thematic strategies to highlight B.C.'s heritage features around the province. The Archaeology Branch provides for the protection of archaeological sites in B.C. and negotiates agreements with the other agencies for heritage protection and preservation of recreation resources, such as the 480-km Alexander Mackenzie Heritage Trail. It also works to preserve the underwater heritage resources of the province.

Ministry of Environment: Wildlife Branch and Fisheries Branch

The mission of the Wildlife Branch is "to manage the wildlife resources of the province of B.C. for the benefit and enjoyment of our people, by maintaining an optimal balance between ecological, cultural, economic and recreational needs". The program's primary goal is to maintain wildlife populations and their habitat. Several additional program goals deal more directly with recreation. For example, program goals include: "to maintain, enhance and promote opportunities to appreciate, study and view wildlife in their habitats" and "to maintain, enhance and promote recreational opportunities to hunt game species in their habitats". These goals are achieved through such activities as public information programs (wildlife viewing program), construction/provision of viewing sites, and the regulation of recreational hunting, all of which contribute to the provision of public recreation opportunities.

The goal of the Fisheries Branch is "to bring social, economic and recreation benefits to British Columbians through conservation, management and use of freshwater fish, fisheries and habitat". Ministry staff work to a) maintain and enhance habitat which will support natural and cultured populations of fish, b) provide abundant and diversified recreation opportunities while protecting desirable populations of fish, and c) support and regulate the use of fish for social and economic benefits. Given the importance of and high demand for recreational fishing opportunities both within and outside of parks, this program makes a key contribution to outdoor recreation in the province.

Ministry of Transportation and Highways

This Ministry's mission is "to provide and maintain safe and efficient movement of people and resources on a provincial transportation system in conjunction with the economic development of the Province in a socially and environmentally acceptable manner". This ministry therefore contributes to the provision of outdoor recreation opportunities by ensuring adequate transportation services throughout the province (highways, railways, ferry systems, etc.). Their roadside development program plays a critical role in enhancing the major tourism travel routes of the province through landscaping projects, floral displays and the establishment and maintenance of rest areas. Transportation and Highways will be a key partner in achieving the BC Parks proposed recreation goals.

Ministry of Tourism and Provincial Secretary

This ministry's mandate is to support the B.C. tourist industry. Specific ministry objectives include increasing the numbers, length of stay and per diem expenditures of travellers, in order to increase the value of tourism in B.C.. One of the ministry's primary roles is to market B.C. as a tourist destination. The ministry's tourism marketing division is always working to identify new markets and marketing strategies ("Super, Natural B.C." being one of its most successful and familiar marketing strategies). It is also responsible for numerous publications, including: *The BC Road Map and Parks Guide*, the *Outdoor Adventure Vacations Guide*; and the *Super Natural B.C. Travel Guide*.

The work of the ministry's tourism product and services division is of particular significance to the supply of outdoor recreation. This division seeks "to improve the quality and competitiveness of the tourism experience in B.C." by supporting the development of tourism attractions, facilities, destinations, areas, routes and services by private and public sector groups. The Ministry of Tourism is a major player in the planning and development of the province's tourism travel routes and outdoor recreation holiday destination areas.

Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans: Small Craft Harbours Program

The Small Craft Harbour Program is part of the Corporate and Regulatory Management Sector of the Federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans. It operates and maintains a system of harbours and provides assistance for the development of new ones. The mandate of the Small Craft Harbour Program is to provide services to commercial fishermen, transient recreation vessels and other non-commercial vessels (tugboats, charter vessels, etc.). The program is responsible for more than 200 small craft harbour facilities in B.C. alone, of which approximately half are located along the west coast and oriented primarily towards the provision of services for commercial fishing vessels. The harbours represent a system which includes extensive waterfront lands, waterlots, wharves, floats, breakwaters and on-shore facilities and services (i.e. moorage facilities, vessel fueling and repair facilities, boat launching ramps, electricity, drinking water, garbage removal, waste oil disposal, gear storage facilities). Facilities and services vary greatly, ranging from isolated mooring buoys in remote regions to fully serviced marinas for thousands of boats.

The primary objective of the program is to maintain and improve current facilities. Expansion of existing facilities and the establishment of new harbours is based on demand from local communities, agency priorities and available funding.

Within the past two years, new facilities have been established, or existing facilities enhanced, at Campbell River, Deep Bay, Comox, French Creek, Sidney and Steveston, among others. While this program tends to focus its planning on commercial fishing industry needs, projects have been initiated in response to local desire to enhance the tourism and/or recreational potential of specific areas (i.e. Ganges Harbour, Saltspring Island). As part of these initiatives, the department is encouraging greater local autonomy and involvement by harbour users in the management of the harbours and harbour facilities. This program clearly makes a key contribution to the water-based recreation opportunities in B.C. and will complement BC Parks' plans to provide more park attractions and services along B.C.'s coast and inland waterways.

Rivers and Trails Program

The Rivers and Trails Program (formerly known as the Recreation Corridors Program), is an inter-agency program. This program provides for a coordinated planning process which focuses on the rivers and trails of the province. The program is designed to recognize significant outdoor recreation opportunities in river and trail settings without establishing special protection, such as provincial parks status, in every case.

Through the program, river and trail corridors possessing significant recreational, historic and/or scenic values are identified and managed for the use and enjoyment of the public. This program therefore furthers the contribution of BC Parks by providing for additional recreational opportunities outside of parks.

Private Sector

The private sector has become a major supplier of outdoor recreation opportunities in B.C.. While the government, as a whole, provides the infrastructure (i.e. the park land base and the transportation services), the private sector, in cooperation with government, ensures the provision of a diverse and attractive range of outdoor recreation facilities and services. For example, the new and growing adventure tourism industry alone offers activities ranging from heli-skiing, horseback riding and river rafting to nature observation tours. This industry is currently made up of hundreds of very small operations and a few larger, full-service operations which cater to international visitors.

The private sector plays a further complementary role by supplying accommodation, food, transportation and other support services which, in many cases, encourage recreationalists to extend their stay in a given area of the province and/or enhance their access to outdoor recreation opportunities.

Although the private sector's relationship to BC Parks is often complementary, there is potential for competition. BC Parks will encourage participation from the private sector in the designation, planning and management of provincial parks in order to help avoid duplication of facilities and services and thereby support the economic viability of private sector operations.

We Need Your Help!

Do you agree with or wish to comment on the four proposed recreation goals?

Do you agree with or wish to comment on our evaluation of the existing park lands' capability to meet those goals?

Do you agree with or wish to comment on the study areas we have identified? Which areas are of highest priority for further study and subsequent proposal as new parks?

Do you wish to propose any additional/alternative areas for our consideration?

Comments can be mailed to:

BC Parks
800 Johnson Street
Victoria, BC
V8V 1X4